

# The Arlington Advocate

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## Plans gel for town pride day

Event attracting hundreds of booths

By CAROL BEGGY  
Advocate Assistant Editor

With Arlington's annual Town Day little more than a week away, organizers continue to wrangle over details, but they promise a variety of events to please Arlingtonians of all ages.

"We're down to the wire," said David Curren, chairman of the Town Day organizing committee. "But I think we're in pretty good shape."

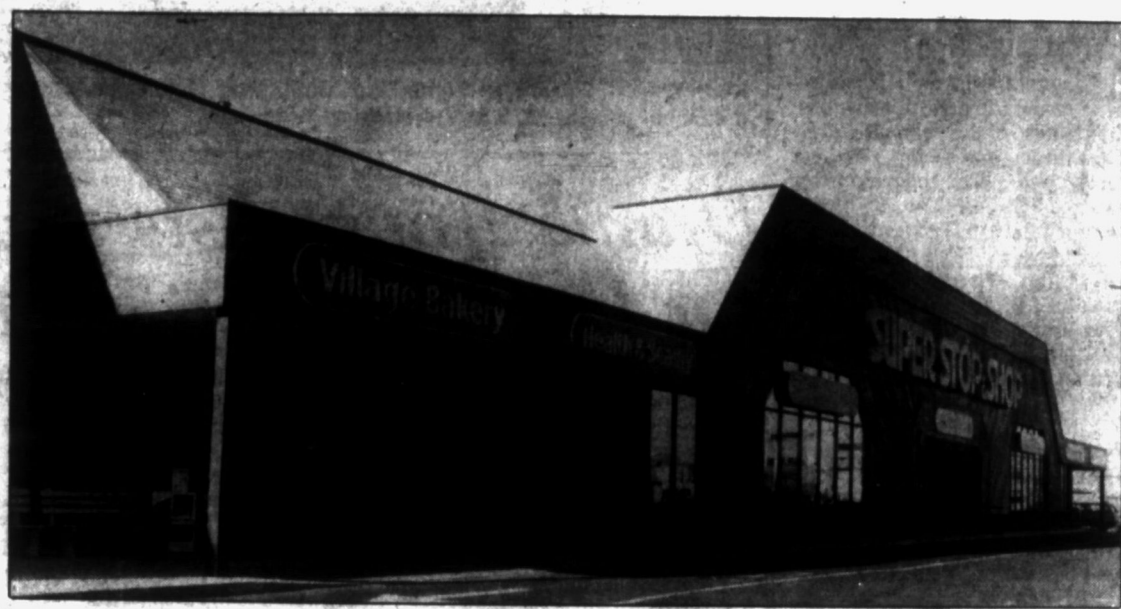
About \$16,000 has been raised for the event of community pride on Friday evening, Sept. 25 and Saturday, Sept. 26. The total is more than was raised last year, but planners say they need \$19,000 to cover all the events.

The celebration will begin on Friday, Sept. 25 at 5 p.m. with the Annual Uncle Sam Cookout at the Spy Pond Field, followed by a concert by Steve Vig Leone of Arlington and his band. The night ends with a grand fireworks display beginning at 8 p.m.

The fireworks will be launched from Elizabeth Island over Spy Pond and, weather permitting, will be visible for miles.

Town Day festivities proper will begin Saturday along Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington Center. First on the agenda, however, is a revival of the Town Day Road Race at 9 a.m. in front of Arlington High School. The location is some distance away from the booths to prevent confusion.

For a full listing of finalized events and times, plus photos of last year's (See TOWN DAY, page 24)



An example of what a Super Stop & Shop would look like in Arlington.

## THE STOP & SHOP QUESTION: Survey finds public split on plan

By WILLIAM FINUCANE  
Advocate Executive Editor

Residents are split sharply on whether Arlington should exchange school land for a new swimming pool or any other form of compensation, according to an exclusive Advocate poll.

Stop & Shop Co. has proposed the swap. It wants to expand its Massachusetts Avenue grocery store into a Super Stop & Shop, using a few acres of adjacent Arlington High School land. It has offered to build the town a pool in exchange.

Controversy has engulfed the proposal from inception. Proponents tout two benefits: a better supermarket drawing more shoppers and a pool for kids. Opponents fear perilous legal precedents, traffic congestion, costs.

Other questions have sprouted. Who decides whether to accept the offer: the School Committee or Town Meeting? Should the town demand cash instead of a pool? If so, who controls the cash? Who pays for any traffic improvements?

The Advocate's telephone survey, conducted over the

past few days, put some of those questions to a sampling of Arlington residents.

Of those surveyed, 15.7 percent said they were well informed and 43.4 percent somewhat informed on the issue, while 37.3 percent knew nothing of it and 3.6 percent answered "don't know."

Among those with an opinion, it shows a nearly even split between proponents and opponents of the exchange concept or the land-for-cash alternative, and a slim plurality tilted against the specific pool proposal.

Most of those who had any opinion at all had a strong one. Relatively few of those polled took the middle ground of "somewhat" agreeing or disagreeing on any of the questions.

The Advocate conducted telephone interviews with more than 80 randomly selected Arlington adults during the past week. Given the sample size, the figures are accurate within plus or minus 10 percent, according to guidelines from Beverly Barnum of the marketing research department at Harte-Hanks Communications

(See SURVEY, page 24)

## Selectman moves away from town but retains seat

By DANA GARDNER  
Advocate Editor

Arlington Selectman Robert Murray, a 19-year veteran of town politics, is seeking to complete the last months of his term as selectman despite moving out of town last week to Cape Cod.

Murray, 47, has retired as an owner of Browne Drug in East Arlington, bought a swimsuit retail shop in Hyannis and permanently moved to a house he owns in West Harwich, he announced to other selectmen at the end of Monday's board meeting.

Murray's three-year term, his fourth, will end with the town election in the spring. He said he will not seek re-election.

A date for the election has not yet been set. Murray is also head of the town's affordable housing corporation.

Town Counsel John Maher said a cursory review of state laws shows Murray may legally fulfill the end of his term despite the change in residency.

But some elected officials in other Massachusetts towns have lost their office because of similar changes of address.

Maher said Tuesday, however, that he was not sure of the laws regarding elected officials and residency. He will investigate the laws and report his findings to selectmen, he said. The next selectmen's meeting is scheduled for Sept. 28.

In Kingston, a planning commission member, was stripped Sept. 2 of his right to vote in Kingston due to a change of address. In that case the loss of voter registration also automatically meant he had to resign from his post. The man is appealing.



Selectman Robert Murray

Selectman Robert Walsh, another veteran of Arlington politics, praised Murray for his service to the town. He said Murray's decision to continue to serve is an indication of his good intentions.

"I can't imagine how an abrupt departure would enhance the town's welfare," said Walsh of Murray's term. "The rationale to stay far outweighs that not to. He can be commended for wanting to continue."

Selectmen Stephen Conroy, however, initially voiced concern that Murray's votes during the meeting may not be valid since he had moved from town.

Maher, acting as the town's attorney, said that all votes were valid (See MURRAY, page 10)

## Brookside



Katie Driscoll, left, and Devon MacGillivray, both 12, of Arlington, dabble their toes in chilly Mill Brook waters near Mystic Street in Arlington. (George Ferrar photo)

## Town Meeting date moved up to April

By CAROL BEGGY  
Advocate Assistant Editor

Pushing the date of Town Meeting ahead a month could give voting members and boards more time to prepare, members of a task force reviewing the body say.

The task force, formed in June by selectmen after criticism of the Town Meeting's inefficiency and disorganization, is developing recommendations for streamlining the

town's legislative body.

At a meeting Tuesday, town planner and task force member Alan McClennen Jr. suggested moving the date of Town Meeting from the third Monday in March to the third Monday in April, giving boards more time to prepare recommendations for the Town Meeting members.

"While developing stricter deadlines will help, trying to get things accomplished in December is almost

impossible," said McClennen. "Moving Town Meeting to April will give people more needed time."

Although altering the date of the start of Town Meeting would require a change in the town's by-laws, the task force's proposal will get a test run this year because the state Legislature has moved the date for spring elections.

"The Legislature changes push the start of Town Meeting to April this

year anyway," said Ann Mahon Powers, task force member and town clerk.

"I think it will work better because people will have to complete the process by the June deadline," said Powers.

The later date would also require there to be fewer sessions, which would improve attendance, Powers said. "We might not have a full house, but (See MEETING, page 10)

## St. Agnes School marks 100th year

First day of school 'like any other'

By CAROL BEGGY  
Advocate Assistant Editor

In 1887 parishioners of St. Agnes decided they wanted a Catholic school for their children. Now, as the school begins its 100th year, it serves students from 17 communities and 23 parishes.

"It's really quite incredible that the school has grown from a small parish school to a school that goes beyond the parish and Arlington," said Rev. Jerome Gillespie in a homily during the school's centennial-year Mass.

"The building exists across the street," said Gillespie. "But it also exists in the hearts and minds of alumni all over the country."

Since classes began in a house across the street from its present location at 51 Medford St., the school has graduated "thousands of students" from its kindergarten through eighth grade program, say centennial celebration organizers.

The students represent 23 parishes, with about one third of the students

coming from outside St. Agnes parish.

Alumni from various classes have been working for the last year trying to track down past students and organize some of the centennial events to run throughout the year.

But for the 465 students in new blouses, blue uniforms and white shirts with ties who returned to the classrooms last week, it was just another first day of school.

"Special? It's the first day of school," said one nonplussed fifth grader. "What's so great about going back to school?"

"Special," nonetheless, is how Gillespie describes the accomplishment.

"This is a special year for us," he said. "It's a special time for the parish that has supported us and people who make up our school."

Monday night's Mass, with present students and alumni packing the upper church, and a social afterward in the school hall, officially opened the centennial festivities.

On Sept. 27, alumni from classes graduating before 1930 will have an afternoon social and tea at Fidelity House. On Oct. 4, graduates from classes between 1930 and 1940 will attend an anniversary Mass followed by a brunch.

Other classes will have similar events through the year, and there will be a book published on the 100 years of the school in the next few months.

For the current students of St. Agnes, centennial events include a tree planting in June, when a time capsule will be sealed and buried, a birthday party in May where students will release 100 balloons, and monthly programs honoring people who keep the school running, such as the custodians, faculty, parents and priests.

Members of the Centennial Committee began to plan events and search



Deidre Glover, 8, reads over information on the U.S. Constitution in Mary Pacheco's grade 3 class at St. Agnes School. (Paul Drake photo)

for alumni last year.

"We put flyers out in the church and other churches last May or June asking for information on the graduates," said Sister Anne Nolan, principal of St. Agnes School.

"The response has been phenomenal. We've received letters from people all over the country. They're so interesting to read," she said.

The school, parish and town have changed a lot in the 100 years, said Gillespie, but the purpose of the school has remained the same.

"Through all the changes, St. Agnes continues to provide a good, solid Catholic foundation for its students," said Gillespie. "Hopefully it will continue for 100 more years."

## Siren makes comeback

By DANA GARDNER  
Advocate Editor

Friend to some, object of hatred to others, Arlington's punctual rite of morning, noon and night blasted back from a hiatus this week. As you probably know, the fire siren is back.

Since falling flat three months ago due to burnt out engine parts, the famous siren whirled back to life Monday to haunt those with dreams of sleeping in past 6:45 a.m.

From perches in Arlington Center and the Highland Station, the air-powered noise maker, an Arlington tradition since 1928, will sound at 6:45 a.m., noon and 6:45 p.m. every day. You can bank on it.

Director of Fire Services Bob Casey said the parts needed to repair the sirens arrived and were installed Monday. The parts to revive the time piece cost \$161, he said.

During the time the siren has been broken, the fire department has heard both good and bad about the fixture.

"We have a lot of pro, and a lot of other people say it's very disturbing," Casey said. The decision was made years ago, however, to keep the siren alive.

The siren is apparently one of the first in the country. It has served a variety of needs from air-raid warning to factory time clock to beckoner of volunteer firefighters.

## Public school enrollments increase

By MARGARET BURNS  
Special to The Advocate

Student enrollment is on the rise in the Arlington School system for the first time in 10 years, showing increases primarily in the kindergarten, first and second grade levels.

This year's total enrollment increased by 70 students from last year's count of about 3,690, said Superintendent of Schools Walter Devine at Tuesday's School Committee meeting. The increase will have a significant impact on the future of Arlington schools, he said.

Total enrollment increases at the elementary level were:

- Brackett Elementary school, 37

more students.

- Thompson Elementary School, 35 more students.

- Hardy Elementary School, 31 more students.

The totals combined with the number of students who left the system made a balance of 70.

While the elementary school principals at the meeting praised the hard work of the custodians who prepared the schools for the first day of classes, all agreed that the buildings are in disrepair and need immediate attention.

The major complaint was about windows were installed 10 years ago that are now permanently fogged. The

School Committee will be sending a letter of commendation to the head custodian for the excellent cleaning work.

Only Bob Lynch, principal at Dallin Elementary School, reported trouble on the first day. An area of roof in a wing housing a computer room has a severe leak, even after being replaced last year and repaired twice this year. The computers were shuffled to various rooms around campus, but no classes were disrupted, he said.

Principal Vito Samorco of Brackett Elementary School asked the School Committee to pay special attention to the physical size of the classrooms at Brackett when the committee performs (See ENROLL, page 10)



## LIBRARY NOTES

Open house  
on special equipment

The Robbins Library will hold an Open House on Tuesday, Sept. 22 for the public to become familiar with library resources available to people with auditory, visual and physical handicaps. Materials from the library's collection will be displayed and staff will demonstrate use of special equipment. The Open House will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Equipment for loan includes cassette players, TV caption decoder, TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) and a page turner. A high-powered magnifier which enlarges print and displays letters up to four inches high may be used within the library.

A wide variety of materials are also available for loan. Large print books and magazines including classic and popular novels, romances, mysteries, westerns and biographies offer reading pleasure to those with visual problems. Books on cassette now provide those who cannot read an opportunity to listen to classic and popular literature.

Materials on topics related to blindness and visual impairments, hearing loss and physical disabilities are available for loan or use within

the library. These resources provide information on legal, educational, vocational, health, financial, and recreational topics of interest to adults, parents, families, and those working with the disabled. The collection is especially intended to assist those with disabilities to live independent and successful lives.

'Mutiny' film  
to be shown

The classic movie "Mutiny on the Bounty" will be shown at the Fox Branch Library Friday, Sept. 18 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

In spite of its technical limitations, this first filming of Nordhoff and Hall's historical adventure novel is considered by many to be the best. Clark Gable stars as Mr. Christian and is ably assisted by Franchot Tone, Donald Crisp, Movita and by the unforgettable performance of Charles Laughton as Captain Bligh. Winner of the Academy Award for the best picture in 1935.

Two shows: at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. It is free.

Saturday programs  
for children

The main Robbins Junior Library

holds free programs for children every Saturday morning, September through May, at 10:30 a.m. The schedule for September is as follows:

•Sept. 19: Movies — Two short movies for children ages 3 and up, "Miss Nelson is Missing" and "Curious George Goes to the Hospital." Total viewing time 30 minutes.

•Sept. 26: Town Day Program: "SummerTunes" — Local performer Gene Stamell will present a musical program which includes an original song about Arlington, "Proud of Arlington." This program is supported by the Massachusetts Arts Lottery as Administered by the Arlington Arts Council. Please note that the Robbins Library will be closed on Town Day except for this program; enter by main Junior Library door.

Story times  
at libraries

Openings still exist for children interested in attending the fall sessions of storytimes at the main Robbins Junior Library and at the Fox and Dallin Branches. The schedule is as follows:

•Junior Library: Wednesdays — 3 year olds 10 a.m. (FULL), 4-5 year olds — 11 a.m.; Thursdays — 3 year olds 10 a.m., 4-5 year olds — 11 a.m.

•Fox Branch: Mondays — 3-5 year olds at 10 a.m.

•Dallin Branch: Tuesdays — 3 year olds — 10 a.m. and 4-5 year olds — 11 a.m.

To sign up for these eight week sessions of stories, songs and fingerplays come in person to the library holding the program or call the Robbins Library 646-1000, Junior Library x4306, Fox Branch x4323 and Dallin Branch x4324.

## Copy Deadline

Contributions for publication submitted by 4 p.m. Monday will be considered for that Thursday's paper.

## Front seat



Keith Kankin, 24, left, of Santa Cruz, Calif., and Todd Rader, 24, of Somerville, enjoy a floating view of a sailboat race Sept. 5 at the Medford Boat Club.

(George Ferrar photo)

Drama troupe lists audition times  
for local production of 'Amadeus'

The Arlington Friends of the Drama announce auditions for their 301st production "Amadeus" by Peter Shaffer on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. at their theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (off Massachusetts Avenue).

The cast calls for parts as Antonio Salieri (aged 31-39 and at 70), Mozart (aged 25-34), Mozart's wife (age 20's) and six other parts of older men. There are a number of silent roles for women and men (various ages) all of which require considerable stage presence and acting ability. Audi-

tioners are requested to read the script prior to auditioning.

The play will be presented Dec. 4-6 and 11-13.

Often described as a "black opera," Shaffer's provocative play revolves around the confrontation between the mediocrity of Court Composer Antonio Salieri and the towering musical genius of his youthful rival, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Played out against a background of 18th century court intrigue, with magnificent Mozartian underscoring, the rumor which has survived two centuries takes its sinister form. Did Salieri, driven by jealousy, not only

bring about Mozart's ruin, but his tragic early death as well?

Director Dorothy Santos, a Winchester resident, has previously directed for the Arlington group including the highly successful Sweeney Todd, the Menotti opera The Old Maid and the Thief and The Rope Dancers. A veteran performer in many plays and musicals, she has also directed and performed at the Concord Players and sung with the Michigan Opera Theatre.

For further information, please contact production manager Virginia Smith at 643-3083 or director Dorothy Santos at 729-2349.

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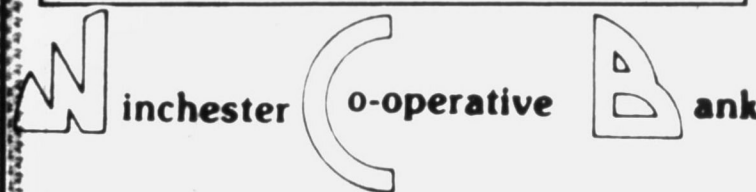
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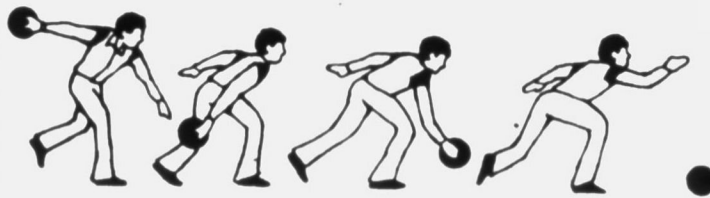


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## Health Views

DR. JOHN DEFILIPPO

SELF-APPOINTED WATCHDOGS  
OF THE NATION'S HEALTH

In the latter half of the nineteenth century, the responsible members of the healing arts were appalled at the opportunistic charlatans that were selling snake oil and other "miracle cures" to a naive public.

Their disenchantment with these "cure promoters" was the genesis of the American Medical Association. These self-appointed crusaders performed a worthwhile function, but, through the years, they reached the conclusion that if it wasn't their way it had to be wrong. I think we can all see the fallacy of this thinking as, ultimately, they branded anyone who was not of their thinking as being a hoax or a charlatan.

In more recent years, many of the individual members of the medical profession have taken a more open (and realistic) view of the other disciplines of the healing arts. I'd like to share with you a recent quote. "There was a time when I looked at Chiropractic through a pair of bifocal lenses, the upper plus prejudice, the lower plus lack of investigation. But because medicine, with all of its adjuncts, had failed to reach the complicated ailments of my invalid wife, I, like a drowning man, grasped at anything in sight."

"I learned of Chiropractic through a friend of mine. I went at once to a school of Chiropractic, and to my surprise, they were actually getting results, on cases that were hopelessly incurable from the standpoint of medicine. I soon saw that the theory they were working on was plausible and met the approval of common sense. All of this opened up a new field of thought to me which had never been presented through the study of medicine. The sooner the

medical profession recognizes the work of the Chiropractor the better! He is doing work that medicine cannot do. He belongs exclusively to the specialists and should be recognized."

This is a quote of M.E. King, M.D. in Therapeutic Review. "Why Chiropractors Should Be Recognized by the Medical Profession."

No discipline of the healing arts has a lock on all the answers. There is no panacea. Today, we perhaps know one or two percent of what there is to know about the healing arts. If you have a health condition that is not responding to traditional concepts, find out if it is a problem for a Chiropractic solution. Remember the five most dangerous words are: "MAYBE IT WILL GO AWAY."

Chiropractic care is proven to be almost twice as effective as any other discipline of the healing arts. If you as an employer, or you as an employee, are not using Chiropractic care for work injuries to the musculo-skeletal system, you're not doing everything possible.

Dr. John P. DeFilippo maintains Chiropractic Offices at:  
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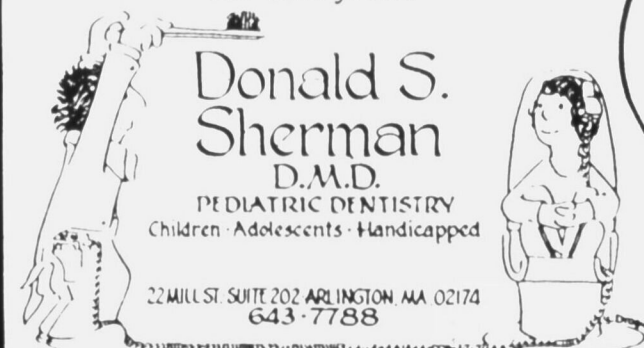
EDUCATION WITH A DISTINCTIVE EMPHASIS

## TEETH FOR CABBAGE PATCH DOLLS

on  
Arlington Town Day

Would your child like teeth put on their cabbage patch doll or similar doll? Come to Town Day with the doll for a free "doll dental check-up" and two front teeth.

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# AIDS presentations to educate groups

By CAROL BEGGY  
Advocate Assistant Editor

With concerns and questions growing with the spread of the deadly AIDS virus, town health officials have developed a series of presentations for the Arlington community, teachers and students.

On Monday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Arlington High School's Lowe Auditorium, a panel including doctors, clergy and a parent whose child has contracted AIDS will participate in a two-hour informational program, "AIDS: Care Enough to Learn, Learn Enough to Care." They will also answer audience questions. The town's health department and the Arlington Public Schools are sponsoring the program.

"This program was developed by many people after we saw a interest for more information on AIDS," said John Welch, assistant school superintendent for pupil and personnel services. "I think the programs will allow us to reach a wide section of the community and answer their concerns."

The panel for the community forum will be moderated by Dr. Robert Meyer, school physician and practicing pediatrician.

Other panelists include Dr. Robert Carey, local internist and head of Internists Incorporated of Arlington; Dr. Roger Pomerantz, fellow, Infectious Disease Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital; Rev. James Savage, curate, St. Eulalia's parish in Winchester and member of the AIDS Action Commit-

tee; and also appearing, a parent of a child who succumbed to the deadly virus.

The forum is free and open to the public.

As the second segment of the community series, a faculty workshop, will be held on Sept. 29 at 2:45 p.m., for interested elementary and secondary teachers.

The third part of the program will be informational assemblies about AIDS for all students at Arlington High School on Sept. 30.

In four individual class assemblies held during the school day, Dr. Robert Carr of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and other health officials will present a program on the latest scientific facts and advances in AIDS.

Although school officials hope that all students will participate in the program, parents may their child exempted from the assembly by contacting their house dean, Welch said.

"We're trying to reach as much of the community as possible," said Welch. "We realize people have questions and concerns and may people and students are facing situations that could change their lives. AIDS is now a question of life or death for some of our young people."

The program has been endorsed by the board of selectmen, school committee, board of health, Arlington Education Association, Community of Caring, League of Women Voters, Hospice Incorporated and Townwide PTO-PAC.

# Housing 'experts' say land too expensive to build affordable units

By DANA GARDNER  
Advocate Editor

When solutions were few on the problem of prohibitively high real estate and rental costs in town, selectmen went to the town's "housing experts."

When the experts, the Arlington Housing Authority, finished talking to selectmen on Monday, solutions remained as elusive as ever.

High expense of land and little state aid for land-poor towns such as Arlington add up to bleak affordable housing picture, said John Cusack, a real estate developer and chairman of the housing authority.

"The best results are going to be minimal," Cusack told selectmen of efforts to create affordable housing. "It's because of the land cost."

The authority oversees Arlington's veterans housing project for those in lower income brackets, under \$17,500 annual income for a couple. But the goal of the affordable housing task force has been the creation of starter homes for couples making less than \$40,000.

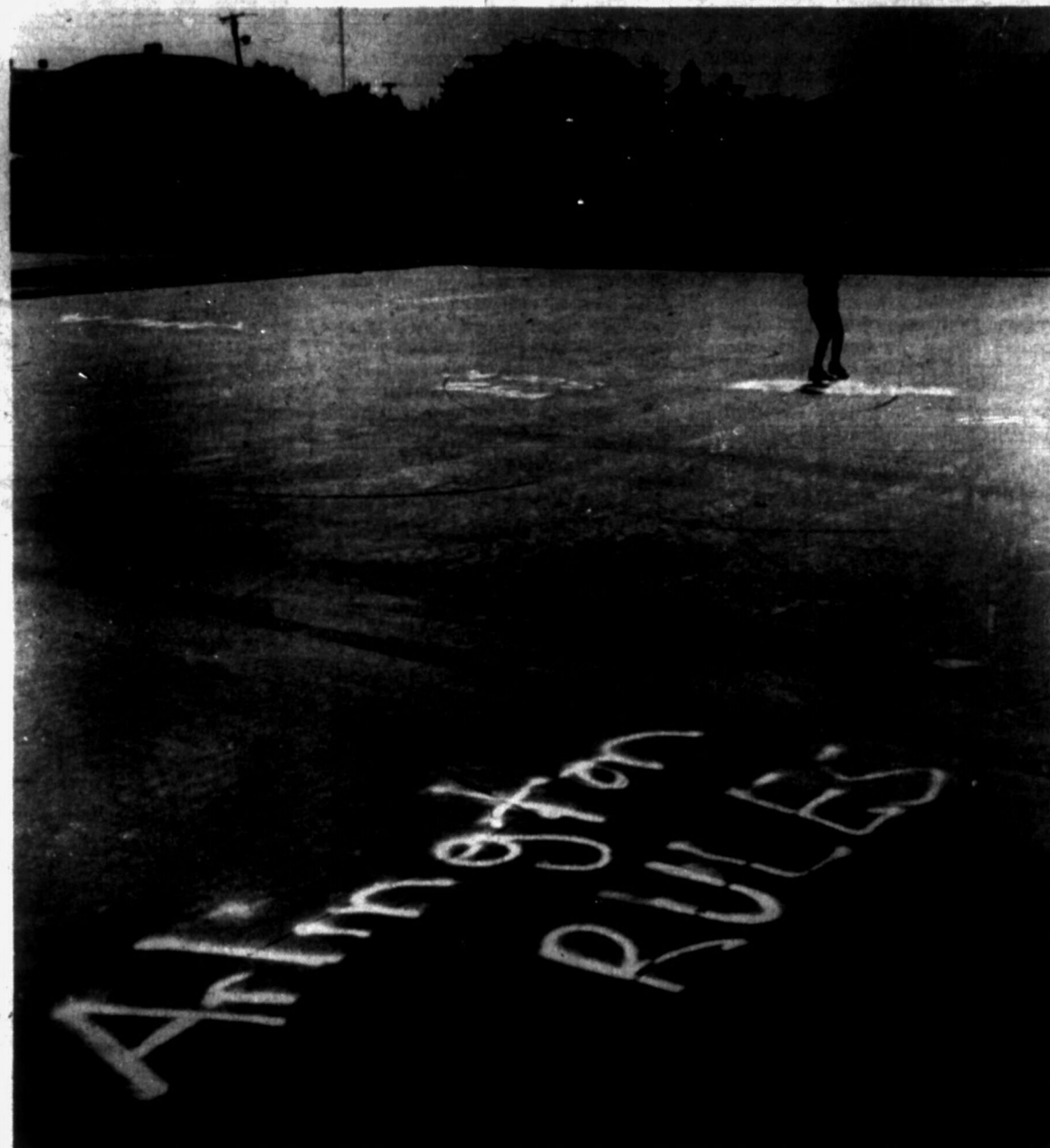
An irony in the affordable housing issue is the ready availability of affordable houses, but the lack of land to put them on, Cusack said. The affordable housing task force has been offered several houses, but has not been able to buy or otherwise acquire land to situate them.

Cusack suggested trying to get control of any state-owned land in the town that is not being used. But even if land were acquired, the state has had a habit of making the rules on how such land is used, selectmen and Cusack, a former state legislator, agreed.

If all the open state- and town-owned land were used to put up middle-income housing, he said, only a dozen or so units could be built in a way to make the housing affordable. "We have to try and somehow attain land," Cusack said.

Selectman Robert Murray, a leader in the drive to try and provide some affordable housing in Arlington, said the next step from here is to try to draft a plan of action for the task force to work from.

## Vandalism



White spray-painted graffiti mars the newly painted blue surface of the wading pool area at the playground by the Thompson School in East Arlington. Town officials decried the acts, saying the fresh paint was hardly dry before the area was vandalized. (Paul Drake photo)

# Warning on pool chemicals

By PHILLIP F. CANNIFF  
Deputy Chief/Fire Prevention

The summer months bring special hazards with regard to the use of backyard swimming and wading pools. Most people are familiar with drowning and security hazards but the general public is often not aware of the serious fire hazards associated with cleaning agents used for disinfecting and deodorizing the water of small and large backyard wading and swimming pools.

The Arlington Fire Department recommends the following precautions for the handling and use of these products so that all may enjoy a fire safe summer:

- Read the container label of the product being used and carefully follow directions.

- Keep the material in the original container and store in cool, clean, dry areas, away from steam pipes or other sources of heat.

- Use only clean, dry scoops.

- Dissolve the dry chemical only in plain water. Never pour water over the chemical. Always pour the chemical into the water, with constant stirring.

- Prevent any foreign material from falling into a container of Calcium Hypochlorite.

- Dispose of spilled material immediately by flushing with large amounts of water. Rinse any empty containers thoroughly with water before discarding.

- Keep hands clean and wash thoroughly after handling. Gloves should not be worn.

- Avoid contact of Calcium Hypochlorite or solution with the eyes or skin. When contact occurs, wash involved area immediately with free flowing water for rapid and thorough dilution. When eye irritation or skin burns occur, obtain medical assistance at once.

- Avoid inhalation of escaping hazardous gases and fumes.

- Vaporizing-liquid type extinguishers should not be used to extinguish fires involving Calcium Hypochlorite.

- For additional information, the user should contact the manufacturer or the chemical supplier.

- In all cases, the Fire Department should be called immediately in the event of fire or explosions. (643-4000)

# Car raffle to help Spy Pond Field

An Arlington family has donated a car to be raffled off beginning on Town Day, with proceeds to benefit the renovation of Spy Pond Field.

John Mirak, owner of Mirak Chevrolet, said his family has donated a 1988 silver, four-door Corsica sedan worth \$10,500.

Raffle tickets will be sold up until Patriots Day, April 19, when the car winner will be picked and the

renovated Spy Pond Field will be rededicated.

A citizens group has been raising funds to help rebuild the fieldhouse at the site in addition to \$160,000 the town allocated in federal block grants to rebuild the cement bleachers at the field, first built in 1912.

The group, Spy Pond Playground Improvement and Preservation Association Inc. (SPPIPA) hopes to

raise \$30,000 from the raffle. But that's only a third of the money needed to fully renovate the baseball and soccer field, organizers said.

Tickets for the car raffle will cost \$1 each or a book of 12 for \$10. Raffle tickets will be available at Town Day and at events throughout the year.

Because of the donation of car to be raffled, a benefit car wash to be held Sept. 20 has been cancelled.

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<b>ANDRE CHAMPAIGNE</b> 750 ml <b>\$5<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>GALLO BLUSH CHABLIS</b> 750 ml \$3.50 <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>SUN COUNTRY WINE COOLERS</b> 4 pack <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b>

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# State does about-face on affirmative action criticism

By PATRICIA HORN  
Special to The Advocate

A month after the town received poor performance marks from a state agency on minority hiring, the Affirmative Action Advisory Committee met to reaffirm its commitment to hiring women and minorities. At the same time on Tuesday, the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD) did not follow through with threats to try and withhold state grants because of what it initially called a poor minority hiring record in Arlington.

During hearings Tuesday in Boston, 24 cities and towns in the Commonwealth were mentioned for possible

ineligibility for several state grants. Arlington was not one of them, said Judith Wright, MCAD spokesman.

With the town no longer under pressure from the agency, proposals for new hiring goals over the next five years were presented by Louise Vrande, the town's new affirmative action officer. The advisory committee held a regular meeting in town hall Tuesday.

Goals include the hiring of 40 new minority and 33 new female town staff people out of 172 anticipated town opening and replacement hirings.

The goals were described as ambitious, but attainable. "There are logistical and legitimate reasons why

we may not reach these goals," said James Webster, chairman of the committee. "But they are good goals."

Barriers to hiring more women and minorities in Arlington were described as 1) low job turnover rate, 2) loss of jobs because of budget cuts, and 3) the anticipated low unemployment rate in the Boston area.

Other obstacles to affirmative action mentioned were the problem the town has problems attracting minorities to apply for jobs, poor public transportation, lower pay compared to the private sector, and the town's small minority population.

"People think of Arlington as being out in the boondocks. They do not think

of it as being near Boston as they do Newton or Brookline," said Joanne Frederick, committee member. Medford has a larger black community than Arlington but there is no direct public transportation route between the two towns, she commented.

The departments where the town is most likely to make strides in hiring minorities and women are police, fire and public works, said Vrande. This, she said, is because the departments have a higher turnover rates.

Currently there are openings in the fire department and the town would definitely like to hire minority or women firefighters for the openings. We know women are at the top of the

regular list. If they can do the job, we will hire them," she said.

The town has made a request from the state for a special listing of qualified minority firefighters, said Vrande. She also hopes to begin encouraging more women and minorities to take the firefighters' exam.

In preparation of upcoming minority hirings in the fire department, the committee decided to hire a consultant to speak with the town firefighters about affirmative action issues. The committee has hired consultants in the past to speak with town police officers and supervisors.

Another long-term goal of the committee is to increase the number of

minority and women businesses the town contracts to. Presently, the town has 0.16 percent of its business with minority- and women-owned companies. This number is deceptive, said Frederick, because the town does not list all of the minority or women owned businesses it contracts with under those categories.

Still, the committee would like to improve the rating and Vrande is currently trying to update the current list of minority- and women-owned businesses the town has contracts with and the state's list of minority vendors. One new method Webster suggested was to speak with other city's minority procurement officers.

## Insurance scam sentencing set

Arlington resident Walter J. Tauro is scheduled to be sentenced on Sept. 22 for his part in an insurance scam, that allegedly bilked a New Hampshire insurance company of nearly \$500,000 in six years.

Tauro, 37, of Cheswick Road, was indicted by a Middlesex County Grand Jury on multiple counts of larceny, filing false insurance claims and conspiracy in connection with auto insurance fraud.

The director of Pat's Auto Body in Cambridge, Tauro changed his plea to guilty in July.

Former Metropolitan Police Patrolman Anthony C. Barbaro, 51, of Winchester, and 21 other persons were also involved in the insurance fraud scam.

Barbaro was sentenced to two years and two months in a House of Correction and was ordered to pay restitution of \$22,891 for his part in the scheme.

## Board of Health appoints physician

The Board of Health has appointed Dr. Robert Meyer as its new physician.

Meyer opened his pediatric practice at 94 Pleasant St. in April. Prior to that time, he worked for eight years at Somerville Pediatric Associates.

Meyer attended medical school at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1974. He did his residency and chief residency in pediatrics at Massachusetts General Hospital. Meyer has been an Arlington resident for nine years.

## Historical Society holds tour on Tour Day

To celebrate Town Day, The Arlington Historical Society will sponsor tours of the Jason Russell House and premiere a new exhibit on women's costumes at the Smith Museum. In addition, the Menotomy Minutemen will present musket firing demonstrations, fife and drum music, and colonial craft items throughout the day on the grounds of the House. Located at 7 Jason St., the House and Museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to the house is \$1 for adults and 25¢ for children. Museum admission is free. The museum gift shop, stocked with books, stationery, and post cards, will also be open on Town Day.

The site of the fiercest fighting on the first day of the American Revolution, the Jason Russell House contains four rooms, an attic, and a cellar. On Town Day, society volunteers will staff each room and explain its history and furnishings.

"Feminine Finery in the 19th Century," the newest exhibit at the Smith

Museum, will feature dresses, trousseau items, and accessories from the society's extensive historical clothing collection.

For more information about the House or Museum, call 648-4300.

## Hospitals sponsor road race

More than 300 runners and walkers are expected when the seventh annual "Health Is Number 1" Road Race of Choate-Symmes Health Services gets underway at noon Sunday, Sept. 27 in Lexington and Arlington.

"Each year has seen the numbers grow, and we expect more participants and families will join us this year," said Dr. Gerald Harris of Lexington, Race Chairman.

Sanctioned by the NEAC (New England Athletic Congress), the race covers a clearly-marked and certified eight kilometer, five-mile loop. It begins and ends at Lexington's Tower Park, after circling through Arlington on Route 2A., Park Street and Mass. Avenue.

Individual medals are awarded to the first three female and male runners in each of 11 age categories, ranging from 18 and under through age 65 and over. There also is a walker's division with awards given to the first three male and female finishers.

Each entrant is provided a tee shirt. Merchandise prizes are awarded to the top 20 finishers as well as by random drawing.

"Water stations will be at two and four mile marks of the course. Refreshments will be provided to participants following the race," Dr. Harris noted. He is one of nearly a dozen physicians annually running in the race.

Also on hand in starting and finishing areas will be representatives of Lifestyles, Choate-Symmes new weight loss program based at the Regional Health Center in Wilmington which offers diet plans adapted to individual lifestyles. Representatives will be present to provide nutrition information and answer questions.

Entry forms may be obtained from the Community Relations office of Choate-Symmes Health Services, Inc. by telephone 646-1500, ext. 1441.

The entry fee is \$6 to Sept. 22 and \$7 after and on the day of the race.

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## Home prices increase by 12%

Single-family home prices in Massachusetts rose 12 percent in the second quarter over a year ago, according to data released recently by the Massachusetts Association of Realtors.

The median price of a single-family home in Massachusetts was \$145,000, up from \$129,500 a year ago. (The median means half the homes sold cost more and half cost less.)

The highest priced homes were in the 51 cities and towns surrounding Greater Boston where the median price was \$185,000, up six percent over last year's \$174,500.

Prices were lowest in the western region of the state including Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden counties where the median single-family home cost \$100,000 for the quarter, up 21 percent over last year.

Statewide, the number of homes listed for sale rose 20 percent. The number of sales rose 16 percent.

The association expects statewide prices to rise ten percent in 1987.

## Workshop on back pain

Help your aching back or prevent the ache by participating in this four-hour workshop that combines demonstration, lecture, film and personalized problem solving on the prevention of back injury and reduction of existing pain.

The program is important for those who suffer from back pain as the result of over-exertion, stresses of daily living, poor posture, lack of exercise and/or recent weight gain. Anyone who lifts, bends, twists or reaches has the potential to suffer from back injuries. This includes not only construction and factory workers but office personnel and homemakers as well. Do you fit into one of these positions? If so, you can benefit by attending.

"Save Your Back" is taught by a Choate-Symmes physical therapist and is being offered on Mondays, Sept. 21 and 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Symmes Hospital.

Pre-registration is required. For registration and fee information please call the Community Health Department at 646-1500 ext. 9901.

## Glaucoma screening

On Sept. 30, from 1 - 2:30 p.m. Dr. Barsam and Dr. Gendelman from the Arlington Eye Associates will offer a free glaucoma screening at the Senior Center, 27 Maple St.

Eye problems or declining vision can often be prevented and should not be considered a routine sign of old age. Early detection and treatment can prevent progression of problems leading to blindness. Glaucoma accounts for one out of every seven cases of blindness.

Please call the Council on Aging to pre-register at 646-1000 Ext. 4720.



Recognized



Lt. Perry Cayton and Arlington firefighter Joel Scully, from left, display a proclamation by selectmen declaring Sept. 20 through Sept. 25 as Emergency Medical Services Week in recognition of all emergency safety personnel, from nurses to firefighters and ambulance personnel. (Paul Drake photo)

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Course offered on home buying

Thinking about buying a home? Attend a three-part series on home buying sponsored by Middlesex and Worcester County Cooperative Extension, a division of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

The home-buyer lecture series will provide solid, unbiased information needed for making important housing decisions. Three Thursday meetings, Oct. 1, 8 and 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. will be held at the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School in Acton.

Cost is \$5 per individual and \$7 per couple. To register, call 264-4700. Extension 5013.

Fundraiser for St. Jerome's

The Giftarama, a fund raiser for St. Jerome's Church in East Arlington, will be on Sept. 24 at the Sons of Italy Hall, 19 Prentiss Road, Arlington. Through the generosity of the Sons of Italy Lodge and the many merchants in town, we are hoping to make this function a huge success. We have many beautiful gifts, raffle tables and three large door prizes, plus refreshments.

Adult courses at Minuteman Tech

Registration is now under way for Minuteman Tech's new daytime adult training programs for careers in Electronics Assembly and Information Processing (secretarial skills/word processing).

The Electronics Assembler course will meet from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, for the two-week period beginning Sept. 21.

The Information Processing program is designed for adults with an interest in entering the secretarial/word processing or book-keeping fields.

Application materials and further information about either program may be obtained by contacting Minuteman's Community Education office at 861-7150. Minuteman Tech is located at the intersection of Route 2A and Massachusetts Avenue just west of Route 128 near the Lexington-Lincoln line. It can be reached by the MBTA Hanscom Field bus from Arlington, Lexington and the Alewife MBTA station.

Plant sale at 'The Vale'

Lyman Estate greenhouses will hold the annual autumn plant sale Thursday, Sept. 24 through Sunday, Sept. 27. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The greenhouses are located at 185 Lyman St., Waltham.

The greenhouses are as old as any standing in the United States. They shelter grapevines planted in 1870 and 100-year-old camellia trees which bloom November through March. Lyman Estate, "The Vale," is owned and operated by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Rare begonias, herbs grown without pesticides, scented geraniums in great variety, cymbidium orchids, orchid cacti, camellias, and other choice and unusual plants suitable for garden, house and greenhouse will be for sale.

The greenhouses are open year-round Thursday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The usual admission of \$2 is waived during the sale.

Plan to refurbish Time Olds gets long-awaited approvals

By CAROL BEGGY  
Advocate Assistant Editor

Even if nothing else along Massachusetts Avenue is moving fast, plans to renovate an auto dealership have finally speeded up.

The saga of the Time Oldsmobile renovation moved a step closer to conclusion as the Redevelopment Board voted unanimously this week to approve revised plans for the Massachusetts Avenue dealership.

The approval, subject to a list of conditions, was given after a public hearing Sept. 14. The developer submitted a scaled-down version of a car sales, storage and repair facility at 745 Massachusetts Ave., near Mill Street.

Time Land and Building Inc., the owner and developer of the property, has been trying to renovate property since late 1983, but a lawsuit by a nearby church and permit denials by the board have stalled the project.

"The Time Oldsmobile project has been before the board more times than any other ... since the board was formed," said Philip McCarthy, a board member. "But I think after the long process we now have a good plan."

The new plan changes a proposed three-story garage, which the board had rejected in December, to a two-tier parking area flush with Massachusetts Avenue.

Time Oldsmobile officials said the needed more parking at their showroom for cars previously stored in the rear of the old Cherny furniture store — now the site of the proposed Rembrandt condominiums.

Plans call for a brick facade to be added to the new structure, along with a brick front on the existing white, cinderblock showroom and office building.

Trees and other landscaping are planned for the site, and the residences on Bacon and Mill streets. The new car storage area will sit about 10 feet back from the sidewalk, with some landscaping in the front of the site.

Loading and unloading of automobiles will still be done from Massachusetts Avenue, a representative of the developer said, because there is not enough room on the site.

The board will be presented with final plans for on-site lighting, traffic, signs, surface water drainage and trash disposal at a later date, which will be subject to its approval.

Time Land and Building Inc. also plans to stop using gasoline pumps at the dealership and will submit plans for the removal or filling of the underground gas storage tanks.

Time Oldsmobile was granted a special permit nearly three years ago for showroom renovations, but has been unable to begin reconstruction because of a law suit brought by St. Athanasius Church, located next to the car dealership, against the Redevelopment Board.

Since the settlement of the suit, the developer has merged the two projects into a complete plan for the site. The project should begin before the end of the year, a lawyer representing the developer said.

"This is a very important project," said board Thomas Falwell, board chairman. "This is the last piece in the redevelopment of a very important area and will determine how that area will look in the future."

Career criminal indicted by grand jury

No trial date has been set yet for Peter J. DiNatale, the 75-year-old man who was arrested for the 138th time in Greater Boston by Arlington Police last month.

DiNatale, of Roslindale, was indicted on Sept. 10 by a Middlesex County Grand Jury for breaking and entering, armed assault in a dwelling and being in possession of burglary tools.

He was arrested on the charges in Arlington on Aug. 26.

Bail for DiNatale has been set at \$1 million bond or \$100,000 cash.

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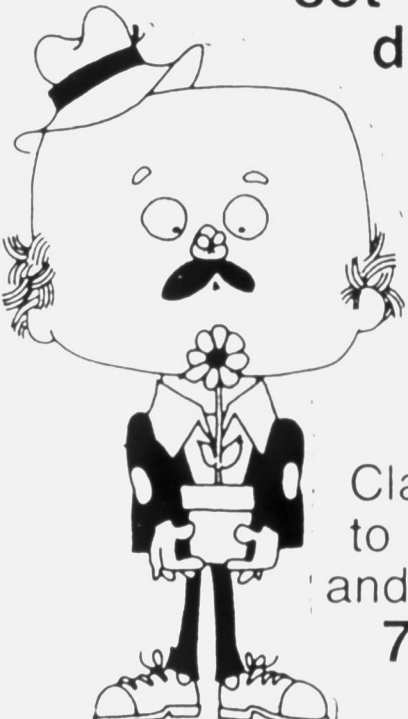
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## Clubhouse



Gordon Marshall tacks up plywood on the new Medford Boat Club clubhouse in Arlington. The new structure is replacing the one that burned down last year. (Paul Drake photo)

## POLICE LOG

### Arrests

A Lincoln man was arrested by Arlington Police after he allegedly caused a disturbance at an office on Massachusetts Avenue and drove away at a high speed.

The 39-year-old man was arrested in front 119 Highland St. on Sept. 8 at about 1:30 p.m. and charged with being a disorderly person, trespassing, speeding, failing to stop for a police officer, and operating to endanger.

A restraining order had been issued against the man barring him from entering the office at 1040 Massachusetts Ave. office. When he showed up and threatened employees, police were notified and responded.

When police arrived they saw the man leaving the building and getting into his car. After a short pursuit police were able to stop the man.

He was arraigned that afternoon in Cambridge District Court and sent to Bridgewater State Hospital for observation.

A 25-year-old Massachusetts Avenue man was arrested on Sept. 10 at 1:18 a.m. at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Elmhurst Road and charged with operating after suspension of license.

On Sept. 10 at 3:34 p.m. a 57-year-old Parker Road man was arrested after the 1983 Cadillac Coupe he was driving hit a telephone pole in front of 162 Mystic St.

The man was charged with operating under the influence of alcohol, operating to endanger and leaving the scene of an accident.

The man and the passenger in his car were taken to Symmes Hospital where they were treated for minor injuries.

A 20-year-old Medford man was arrested on Sept. 11 at 7:55 p.m. at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Franklin Street and charged with speeding and operating a motor vehicle after his license was suspended.

On Sept. 12 at 2:40 p.m., a 21-year-old Cambridge man was arrested in front of 756 Massachusetts Ave. and charged with larceny of a motor vehicle, receiving stolen property and driving after his license was suspended.

Also on Sept. 12, a 33-year-old Nicod Street resident was arrested near Hurd Field and charged with operating under the influence of alcohol and

possession of marijuana.

### Larcenies

On Sept. 8 at 6:24 p.m. a Tower Road woman reported that a bicycle at her house had been stripped of its parts. The frame had been left chained to the building.

A Margaret Street woman told police on Sept. 9 that sometime during the day two children's scooters had been taken from her yard. The scooters, one blue and one pink, were valued at \$70 each.

On Sept. 9 a Forest Street man reported that while his car was parked in the Municipal Parking Lot the driver side of his 1975 Chevrolet had been broken and \$12 was taken.

A Mary Street man called police shortly after noon on Sept. 10 to report his 24-inch, green, Mongoose bicycle had been taken from the corner of Alton Street and Broadway. The bike's value was listed at \$150.

On Sept. 10, a Varnum Street man told police a 27-inch, silver, 10-speed bicycle had been taken from a rack on his car sometime between 9:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. that night.

A Newport Street man reported that a group of youths had taken a poster from him as he was walking near the corner of Massachusetts and Park avenues on Sept. 11 at 5:17 p.m.

On Sept. 12, a Hamilton Road man told police the battery had been removed from his 1974 Dodge.

At about 3:19 p.m. on Sept. 13, an unidentified man took approximately \$60 worth of health care supplies from the CVS store at Broadway Plaza.

Police are trying to locate the man, who fled the scene in a light tan car. The car's registration was supplied to police by a witness.

### Break-ins

A Decatur Street resident reported that someone broke into his 1977 BMW sometime during the day on Sept. 9 and took a car stereo.

On Sept. 9, Swanson's Bakery reported an attempted break-in during the night at the store on Massachusetts Avenue.

A Bates Road man reported on Sept. 9 that someone had forced their way into the house through a side door and took a Sanyo microwave oven.

On Sept. 10, a Brooks Avenue man

told police that sometime during the day his apartment had been ransacked and a Panasonic VCR was missing.

Police received a report on Sept. 13 from the owner of a house on Melvin Road that someone had forced a door open and vandalized the house.

### Vandalism

On Sept. 8, a Broadway resident told police the windshield of his 1985 Chevrolet had been smashed while parked at his house.

A resident of 1284 Massachusetts Ave. reported the left fenders and doors of his 1985 Mitsubishi had been dented sometime during the day while his car was parked in front of 1385 Massachusetts Ave.

On Sept. 10, a Somerville man told police the windshield of his 1975 Chevrolet had been smashed by a cinder block while the car was parked at the Bishop School.

A Sunnyside Avenue man reported on Sept. 10, that the right front door of his 1979 Chevrolet Cammaro had been kicked in by youths.

At 10:30 p.m. on Sept. 10, a dark colored Oldsmobile Cutlass was driving near the playground at Robbins Farm and tore up a large section of grass.

Early on Sept. 11, a 9-foot by 6-foot of a hair styling salon at 925 Massachusetts Ave. was cracked.

Shortly after 11 p.m. on Sept. 11, a 1986 Chrysler owned by a Medford man was flipped over while parked in front of 30 Mill St. The top of the car was heavily damaged and the windows were smashed.

On Sept. 13, a Fremont Court woman reported 3-foot by 3-foot window at her home had allegedly been broken by her ex-boyfriend.

Also on Sept. 13, a James Street woman reported the left side window of her 1986 Hyundai had been broken by a brick.

### Miscellaneous

Melrose Street woman was taken to Symmes Hospital and treated for minor injuries following an automobile accident at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Mystic Street.

At about 8:45 p.m., a 1987 Nissan driven by the Melrose Street woman collided with a 1987 Chevrolet driven by a Malden man.

## Gogos bribery trial scheduled

The trial for an Arlington man accused of accepting bribes while working as a building inspector for the city of Somerville is scheduled to begin on Oct. 19.

Speros S. Gogos, 58, of Everett Street, was indicted in June by a Middlesex County Grand Jury on two counts of accepting bribes.

The case will be heard in Middlesex Superior Court, according to a spokeswoman for District Attorney Scott Harshbarger's office.

## Man hospitalized after struck by car

A Viking Court man was listed in serious condition this week at Massachusetts General Hospital after being struck by a car Sunday while he crossed Mass. Avenue in East Arlington.

Paul Sampson, 30, was struck by a 1977 Ford Pick-up truck driven by an Ashland Street man on Sept. 12 at about 7:30 p.m.

The driver had apparently pulled out of a convenient store on Mass. Avenue and struck Sampson in front of 245 Mass. Ave.

The accident is being investigated by police and no charges had been filed on Tuesday.

## NEWS NOTES

### School improvement councils seek new members

One of the major attributes of Chapter 188 of the Public School Improvement Act is the allocation of grants to schools that establish School Improvement Councils. These councils have provided the Arlington Public Schools with the opportunity to enrich their educational resources, both through the expenditure of monies that have been given to each school and through the process of including principals, teachers, parents, and the community in the educational decision-making of schools.

At the present time, School Improvement Councils are being formed for the 1987-1988 School year and the Arlington Public Schools is actively seeking to retain members at-large for each of the 10 Councils. If you are interested in receiving further details about serving on a School Improvement Council, please contact the Assistant Superintendent for Program and Pupil Support Services at 646-1000, Extension 3031, prior to Sept. 24.

### Art Association exhibit, sale

The Arlington Art Association will hold an art exhibit and sale on Town Day, Sept. 26 in the park between Robbins Library and the Town Hall on Mass. Ave. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come and enjoy a most interesting selection of art work created by many talented community artists.

## Grand Opening Store Wide Sale Continues....

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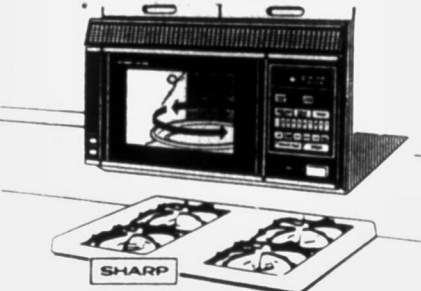
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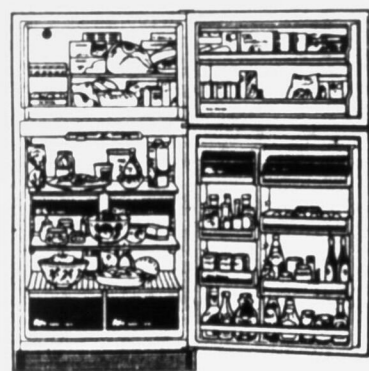
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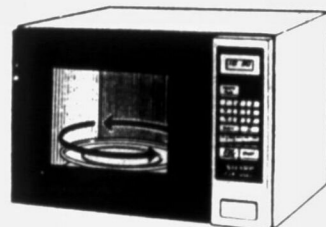


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# Comment

## Polish does not make the woman

By TERRY MAROTTA  
Special to The Advocate

Last week an interesting exchange took place in the dressing room of a local clothes supermarket to which, in lemming-like seasonal migration, scads of parents had dragged their recalcitrant, perspiring, lint-covered offspring in preparation for that harmonic convergence of Time and Fortune known as Back to School.

I was one of them. I stood in one of the little curtained cubicles, urging the daughters of my own body into various tops and pullovers, negotiating them gently over hairstyles with enough tails and wings and feathers to outfit Pegasus himself, while keeping the curtain shut if you don't mind, Mother, and tell her please to stop staring at me, and couldn't you stand outside the dressing room just as well?

The baby of the family was himself outside the dressing room. A winning lad of three, he lay on the floor of the long curtained aisle, all blond curls and dimples, humming a little tune and tugging at the crotch of his sunsuit.

Just then another boy, maybe a year older than he, more or less waded through the curtain of his mother's cubicle and hove into view.

"I can open heavy doors," he told my toddler.

"Uh uh," came the response.

"I can too! And I can knock you down."

"Uh uh!" said my gently-reared baby.

"Yes! And I can push you through the floor!"

Just then this child's mother poked her head through the curtains.

"Don't talk to the little boy that way," said she.

The older child looked shocked. "That's a girl," he said in an injured tone. "Look, it's wearing nail polish."

Now it was my turn to poke my head through.

"Actually, he is a boy; he's just a boy who likes nail polish. His big sisters use it, and he thinks it looks nice."

"I trailed off, dreading what

cruelties awaited us now.

Just then Mr. Revlon himself spoke up.

"I'll punch your face," he told the older child.

To which replied the erstwhile antagonist after a thoughtful pause, "My name is David."

"That's my daddy's name," said mine. Then, with an almost dismissive toss of the head, "Her husband."

Can you open heavy doors?" wondered the young David.

"Sure."

They both smiled. They were smiling still as they trudged, the pair of them, behind carts brimming with outfits, in the general direction of the cash registers.

But the conversation lingers in my memory. How quick that child was to bully a fellow human when he thought he addressed a female; how quick to forge an alliance when he saw he addressed a male.

Some say the institution of marriage is in trouble because of external pressures: the thinning of the ozone layer, the rise of sitcoms, the general prevalence of Hamburger Helper in our lives. I say it's imperiled because males and females are so different as to be just barely able to wave wanly across an all-but-unbreachable distance.

I had a male obstetrician once who never looked me in the eye, spoke to me with the tiniest measure of warmth, or called me by name once in nine long intimate months of prenatal care. When my husband showed up on D-Day, though, and the moment had come to go to the Delivery Room, the good doctor beamed, punched him in the shoulder and said, "Wanna come in and heckle? Har Har." I've never forgotten that, and I changed doctors while the ink was still wet on the birth certificate.

But some things are harder to change. The fight against ancient sexism is well begun, I guess; but there's work to be done yet. What will we do about the primitive clannish manner of the male animal? Apply more nail polish, maybe. Beyond that, I throw up my hands.

## Images from our past



Two 19th century Arlingtonians get straight razor shaves at an ornate Massachusetts Avenue barber shop in this 1899 photo. The shop included numbered mugs and brushes, apparently for regular customers. (Courtesy Arlington Historic Society)

## YEARS PAST IN ARLINGTON

### Ten Years Ago

Selectmen accepted a certificate of National Historic Register designation for the Arlington Center district from Historical Commission during Town Day ceremonies dedicating a granite marker. The marker gave some history of the Winfield Robbins Garden and the historic district.

Arlington architect John G. Parrillo won an award for design excellence in housing from the Boston Society of Architects. The award was given for a 119-unit elderly housing project.

### Twenty-Five Years Ago

Arlington's share of the MTA deficit was reduced by 89 cents. The cut was reportedly the result of fare increases, service cuts, and manpower reduction.

Figures released from the Town Clerk's office revealed there were 3,000 more Democrats in the town than Republicans. Today there are 14,499 more Democrats than Republicans.

### Fifty Years Ago

Arlington took part in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. All schools in the town closed in honor of the event, as did all of the offices in Robbins Memorial Town Hall.

## GUEST COLUMN

# When Town Meeting stops working

By ROBERT PREER  
Special to The Advocate

Conservatives often advocate shifting national-scale political power to smaller, simpler and presumably more democratic local governments. However, the record of the smallest, simplest and most local democratic institution of all offers little support for this romantic vision. The New England town meeting, America's only surviving form of "pure" or direct democracy, is in trouble, beset by special interests and bureaucracy.

Founded 250 years ago by the settlers, the town meeting is still the chief governing body of 88 percent of New England municipalities. Any registered voter can attend a meeting and vote and speak on any issue. However, most people stay away. Many towns are lucky to get a 5 percent turnout for even their most important and controversial meetings.

Meetings frequently are canceled because quorums, which are set as low as 1 percent or 2 percent of registered voters, cannot be met. In Massachusetts, the town-meeting season coincides with the professional hockey and basketball playoffs, which keep many townfolk homes glued to their television sets. Only in the small, closely knit towns of northern New England does attendance routinely exceed 20 percent.

Into this vacuum have moved the special interests and the bureaucrats. Town employees are the most effective at controlling sparsely attended meetings. Raises and promotions pass with ease because meetings are so often packed with employees and their families and friends. Business interests, especially those related to development, also manipulate meetings. Efforts to control growth in suburban towns often are thwarted by coalitions of builders, construction workers and real-estate dealers.

Ideological groups are the latest special interests to use the meetings. In 1982, nuclear-freeze activists organized in Vermont towns and pushed resolutions through meetings all over the state. Others followed suit, and meetings now find



themselves debating abortion, leghold traps and how to balance the federal budget. This has created a circus-like atmosphere and undermined the meetings' essential role as local decision-making institutions.

Democracy in New England towns also is weakened by the growing power of local bureaucrats. As towns have grown, they have become more complicated to run. Experts in planning, budgeting, engineering, computers and other technical fields now overrun town governments. These technocrats control meeting agendas. They also dominate town-meeting debates, because issues often are far too complex for an average citizen who attends one or two meetings a year to comprehend.

Thus, the town meeting does not represent an antidote for the problems of democracy at the national level. Rather, it is a microcosm of national politics. In both cases, power has shifted from an apathetic and

unorganized public to special interests, the mass media and a bureaucratic technocratic elite. The underlying causes also are the same. As any society grows in size, elites naturally tend to rule, while the masses become apathetic.

And as society grows in technological complexity, technocrats wind up making the decisions that affect people's lives. American society has grown too large and complex for democratic institutions to function well, even at the level of a small New England town.

With these forces at work, why do town meetings survive? Take our national democratic institutions; they are sustained by a powerful myth. Thomas Jefferson, who had much to do with our democratic myths, called the town meeting "the wisest invention ever devised by the wit of man for the perfect exercise of self-government."

De Tocqueville wrote that "town

meetings are to liberty what primary schools are to science; they bring it within the people's reach, they teach men how to use and enjoy it." New Englanders have accepted these ideas on faith and handed them down to succeeding generations.

The town meeting also has survived because it is, in one respect, fundamentally different from other political institutions in America. A town meeting is the only forum where ordinary citizens still can stand up and confront the elites who are in charge. It is a mechanism by which the people could, in theory, seize control from the bureaucrats and special interests.

In practice, the town meeting may be a poor instrument of democracy, but people don't want to let go of the tool—even if they never use it. Robert Preer, a free-lance writer and doctoral candidate in political science at Boston University, wrote this article for The Washington Post.

## BEACON HILL ROLL CALL

Massachusetts House and Senate  
September 11, 1987

**The House and Senate.** The House and Senate are scheduled to end their summer recess and reconvene the week of September 14. This week, "Beacon Hill Roll Call" continues its report on legislators' votes on roll calls dealing with the fiscal 1988 budget recently signed into law by Governor Dukakis.

**Education** — House 87-59, approved an amendment providing that any revenues in the state lottery fund above \$195 million be set aside in a reserve fund to implement the recommendations of a special committee on improving public education.

Amendment supporters said the money should be used to implement recommendations now being developed by this committee which

was established in 1985.

Opponents said this amendment radically alters lottery fund distribution and claimed it is irresponsible to set aside money when the committee has not even made recommendations.

A Yea vote is for the amendment. A Nay vote is against it.

Representative Robert Havern voted no.

Representative Mary Jane Gibson voted yes.

**Beyond 10 p.m.** — House 122-28, suspended rules to allow the House to remain in session beyond 10 p.m.

Supporters said the budget is very important and the House must stay in session to complete its work.

Opponents said it is irresponsible to hold marathon late-night session.

Havern voted yes.  
Gibson voted yes.

## BULLETIN BOARD

### Thursday, Sept. 17:

Board of Examiners, 7 p.m., 51 Grove St., Arlington.  
Historic District Commission, 8 p.m., hearing room, second floor, town hall.

### Wednesday, Sept. 23:

Stop & Shop Task Force, 5 p.m. School Committee room, sixth floor, Arlington High School.

## The Arlington Advocate

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## Dog owners

### taken to task

TO THE EDITOR:

The dog officer states violations of law can be called in from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. or through police and he can respond within five minutes.

I called regarding dog pooping in front of my fence. I had to clean it up.

Many dog walkers should carry plastic bags. Supermarket produce departments have free bags when you purchase fruits also. In order to clean up after your dog, wear bag as a glove, pick up dog stool, turn inside out, and discard when you get home. Disgusting, isn't it? But why should we clean up after your dog? Be responsible, don't pollute your neighborhood! Love thy neighbor! is a far better bumper sticker than "I Love My Dog."

Name held on request

## Voice of support at St. James

TO THE EDITOR:

In response to the letters regarding the closing of St. James school,

I would like to express the feelings of the majority of parishioners of St. James Parish.

Most of us here at St. James appreciate having Fr. Daley here with us and know him to be a good priest and an effective pastor. We are also grateful to Cardinal Law for having sent us another good priest, Fr. Mehm to be his associate.

I hope and pray that the vocal minority that are bitter about the necessity of the St. James School closing will once and for all accept the reality of the situation and support our priests in their work in our parish.

Alfred and Flora Pennino

## Fears change in town

TO THE EDITOR:

Fifteen years ago I moved to Arlington because of its wholesome family atmosphere. I have chosen to remain here because of the wonderful people who are the town of Arlington, and the resources that are available to us, the schools, library and recreation department.

I fear Arlington is changing. One

indication is the threat of closing the skating rink to public skating. Town Counsel John Maher warned that the town "has not been faced with a serious, catastrophic suit. This is not going to go on forever. It has to come to a stop." So are we to start running scared? Or are we able to let the town be responsible for making the ice while we as individuals take the liability for lacing up our own skates. It seems ludicrous to pay an annual premium of \$39,480 to cover claims up to only \$100,000. The town should save the premium costs for when and if it should ever be faced with a suit.

At present ice rental fees have increased to cover the \$15,000 annual premium cost which covers hockey teams and rental events. However, I find this very perplexing, as the cost of being on a hockey team in Arlington is already as much as \$100 per season more than area towns. But at least that increase has a purpose. What is the rationale behind the 100% raise in public skating fees to \$2 for child and \$3 for adults? The rink is already self-sufficient so where is this extra revenue going to? I also question if the town is bordering on discriminating between those with ex-

tra money to spend and those who count their nickels and dimes. A matinee movie in Arlington is only \$1.50, child but then how can we compare good healthy exercise like skating to some of the nonsense shown at the theater? But if money is tight I fear too many children will choose the cheaper of the two. Anyway I look at this problem, I only see the children and therefore, families and the town losing. Maybe the reason for the increase in the admission fee with a reduction in available house is to discourage use of the public rink. But then we may be faced with bored and restless children in need of a constructive avenue for their energies. I certainly hope this doesn't happen.

As I state, Arlington is changing. The cost of housing is saying, young families look elsewhere and professional couples, welcome. There is little the town management can do about real estate but there is still a lot it can do about services to keep families interested in staying in this town, and encouraging new ones to join us.

Patricia Langill

(See LETTERS, page 11)



# Davis stalks limits of concentration

By ANNE-MARIE SELTZER  
Special to The Advocate

The esteem and prestige that Chester Davis Jr. has earned through his skill in bridge is more than just the luck of the draw. Mastering the game requires a keen sense of competition, concentration, tension, and a good partner.

Ranked 105th in the country in accumulated masterpoints (8,300), David and three partners recently represented New England at the Grand National Teams at the National Bridge Tournament in Baltimore. The event was part of the 1987 Summer North American Bridge Championships.

A resident of Arlington since 1954, Davis is president of the Frank H. Davis Co.

Davis began playing the game in 1952. A frequent business traveler to the southern United States during that time, he couldn't fly home every weekend, and playing bridge occupied his time. His specialty has always been a form of duplicate bridge called tournament bridge.

According to Davis, bridge developed from an English card game called Whist in 1896 and is currently the most popular card game in the English-speaking world. In 1904, auction bridge appeared and in 1926, contract bridge.

For the dedicated bridge player, the ultimate goal is to be a Life Master. Davis, a Life Master since 1956, explained, "Every time you win a bridge tournament, you accumulate masterpoints. When you have accrued 300 masterpoints, you are considered a Life Master. Becoming a Life Master takes time because you often receive only a fraction of a masterpoint for an evening's play. The American Contract Bridge League (ACBL), the governing body for all organized bridge activities and promotion in North America and the largest bridge organization in the world, keeps a record of everyone's masterpoints."

In July, David and his three teammates represented New England in the Grand National Teams (GNT) in Baltimore. The winner of the GNT joins the winners of three other competitions in a tournament called "The Final Four" to determine who will represent North America in the 1989 Bermuda Bowl in Australia. This was Davis' fifth trip to the GNT on behalf of New England players.

Although Davis and his colleagues didn't win the GNT, they were delighted to represent the New England region. "Going to the GNT provided a wonderful opportunity to compete against teams of Life Masters from 24 other districts in North America," he said. "Of the 50,000 North American Life Masters, about 16,000 competed for the right to



Chester Davis Jr. of Arlington demonstrates the gaze of concentration that has helped earn him the title of bridge master. (Paul Drake photo)

play in the GNT by participating in tournaments at the grass roots level throughout Mexico, Canada, Bermuda, and the United States."

The highlight of his bridge experience was finishing second in the Blue Ribbon Pairs Competition, the most prestigious national pairs tournament, in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1979. Said Davis, "Prize money is never given out at any ACBL tournament. Participants earn the prestige of competing on a national level and the recognition that it brings."

In selecting a partner, Davis looks

for an individual who, like himself, has bridge ability, a competitive spirit, a good memory, and good concentration. To that list, Davis would also add self control because "it's very easy to yell at your partner if something goes wrong." Davis currently plays with Medfield resident Richard Freedman, whom he describes as "the ideal partner."

Davis encourages anyone with an

interest in bridge to pursue it. "Bridge isn't meant for just one specific group. For the novice, starting with weekly duplicated bridge sessions is probably the best way because the atmosphere is less competitive and the groups are more social. All you need to play is time and a few dollars for the game fee. That's a small price to pay for an evening's entertainment," he said.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Dance group monthly dance

The Red Hot Squares will hold their monthly dance on Saturday Sept. 19 from 8-11. Jack O'Leary will be calling mainstream and Bill Chadwick will be cueing rounds. The dance will be held at the Fox Hill School off of route 62 in Burlington.

The club holds open workshops for mainstream on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at the Fox Hill School with Paul King calling. Come join us for a night of fun. For further info call Chelmsford, 256-3617.

### Jazzercise course begins

As children head back to school and parents return to their regular work schedules families are slipping into new daily routines for fall. To accommodate changing schedules, local jazzercise instructor Susan Rosie announces her fall class schedule.

Rosie will teach classes on Monday & Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Fidelity House and on Tuesday & Thursday at 5:30 and 7 p.m. at the Gibbs Jr. High and on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Gibbs Jr. High.

For more information on local Jazzercise classes, call 646-9617.

### Matignon class of '62 reunion

The Matignon High School Class of 1962 will hold its 25th reunion on Friday, Nov. 27, at the Sheraton Tara Hotel, Lexington.

Please contact one of the members of the Reunion Committee if you are interested and have not been contacted. Edmund Storlazzi - 646-2726, Janice Sacco Ablon - 887-9510 or Diane Dickson Cronin - 648-2675.

### Artist to present slide show

Jim Haberman, photographer and sculptor, will present a slide show of his art at the next Symmes Sunday Brunch for Seniors. Haberman's artwork has been described as "satirical and witty social commentary."

The brunch takes place in the Symmes Hospital cafeteria at 1 p.m. Oct. 4 and costs \$3.50. For more information and to register, call Maxine Lyons at 646-1500, extension 2424.

### School plans crafts fair

The Germaine Lawrence School is preparing for its annual holiday Crafts Fair on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. The Board of Friends of the School is very active at recruiting a variety of arts and crafts people to make this event a very successful one.

Space is still available at \$20. Crafts people interested in participating in a well-attended fair are invited to contact Denise Chamberland at 648-6200, with the least practicable delay.

### Free screening for glaucoma

On Sept. 30 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Dr. Paul Barsam and Dr. Phillip Gendelman offer a free glaucoma screening at the Senior Center, 27 Maple St.

Eye problems or declining vision can often be prevented and should not be considered a routine sign of old age. Early detection and treatment can prevent progression of problems, leading to blindness. Glaucoma accounts for one out of every seven cases of blindness.

Please call the Council on Aging to pre-register at 646-1000, ext. 4720.

### Safe boating course offered

Lightship Flotilla 1-504 will be conducting their annual fall boating course in September. This is a 13-lesson boating skills and seamanship course and will be given at Belmont High School, 221 Concord Ave., Belmont.

Course starts on Wednesday, Sept. 30 and will run for ten weeks - 7 to 10 p.m.

At the conclusion of the course, an examination will be given. Those persons passing the examination will be awarded a certificate which may entitle them to discount on their marine insurance.

There is a registration fee of \$20 payable to the town of Belmont.

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**Gem Wise** AGS  
Jewelry Fashions, Facts, Fiction

By  
David Swanson

**AGS**  
Member  
American Gem Society

Welcome to Gem Wise. In this column I will bring you some unique and interesting aspects about our wonderful world of gems. I will also cover points that are helpful to anyone considering buying fine jewelry such as information about wear and care of particular gems, new jewelry fashion trends and historical lore about well known gemstones.

For example, can you guess the answer to the following questions? Its easy - the answer to each one is the same.

1. What gemstone was used as a flint stone by villagers in the Zanzkar mountains of Kashmir (India)?

2. What gemstone is found in a range of colors, including yellow, reddish-orange, brown, pink, violetish-blue, bluish-green, and blue, but never red?

3. What gemstone was believed by ancient Persians to hold up the earth and to impart color to the sky?

4. What gemstone was given y an English prince to his beloved for their engagement?

If you guessed sapphire, the birthstone for the month of September, you are correct. Sapphire is a time-honored and beautiful gem. The fact, and its durability, made it a wonderful choice for Prince Charles to give to lade Diana Spencer when they were engaged.

While blue is generally the color that sapphire calls to the mind, it is available in many other colors. Why are there no red sapphires? It is a matter of definition. "Ruby" is the name given to the red colored gemstone which possesses the optical and physical properties of a sapphire.

In buying fine jewelry, one of the most important things to know is your jeweler. His knowledge and business ethics should be above reproach. Through Gem Wise I hope you will come to know me and our firm a little better.

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# School enrollments show rise

(Continued from page 1)

its space study. He said that with 25 students per classroom, and the increase in the enrollment, the rooms are already cramped and he requested smaller class sizes.

All the other principals reported the teachers were prepared and in high spirits, making the first day go smoothly.

The superintendent made recommendations to hire three new teachers to accommodate the growth in the system. He recommended that both the fifth grade class at Thompson, with an enrollment of 52, and the sixth grade class at Hardy, with a total of 53, be split into two classes and that a part-time first grade teacher at Brackett be hired. All the suggestions were passed by the committee.

The money needed, about \$60,000, to pay for the staffing changes will come from the substitute teacher budget, said Devine, because it is the only budget that can be tapped.

Other changes in staffing approved by the committee were granting a one-year leave of absence to Mary Jane McCarthy, a high school reading teacher and appointing Wayne

Schofield as the head coach and athletic director for the freshman football 1987 season and George Panitsidis as head coach and athletic director for the junior varsity boys' soccer team.

Jacqueline Richardson will start as a part-time English teacher at the high school and will help fill the gap created by McCarthy's absence. Carol Silverstein will replace the retired mathematics high school teacher, Arthur Kenny.

Since the Wednesday afternoon release day schedule was eliminated this year, the committee approved a new calendar that would provide the needed time for teacher in-service and student conferences. The only date affected in October is Wednesday, Oct. 7, which will serve as an in-service day for grades K through 12. Elementary schools will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. and secondary schools will be released at 12:30 p.m. Parents will be notified of all the future dates by mail.

The new calendar will probably cause some problems for parents, said School Committee member Janice Bakey, and this year is a trial for everyone. She added that the committee asks the community to bear with them and give them feedback.

The new Unit B contract that covers the school administrators and department heads, was ratified by Virginia Fuller, president of the Arlington Education Association, and William O'Brien, chairman of the School Committee. This means that those included will only be granted a one year contract agreement instead of one for three years, which teachers have. Teachers are covered under the Unit A contract agreement.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Joanne Gurry was granted another year in the "roll over" of her contract, extending her position into 1990. Devine made the recommendation on the basis of her June evaluation. The committee passed it unanimously.

At the close of the meeting, the committee went into an executive session to discuss the Stop & Shop land proposal value.

## Menopause is topic of lecture

"Understanding Menopause" will be the topic of a talk and discussion offered by Mark Macklis, M.S., obstetrician/gynecologist from the Regional Health Center in Wilmington at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29.

Macklis will offer helpful hints for coping with changes and discuss current interventions, including hormone therapies, and dietary recommendations.

The talk is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 646-1500, ext. 1442 or 657-3910, ext. 567.

## Drucker named to ULowell post

The University of Lowell Board of Trustees appointed a Massachusetts assistant inspector general to be the new assistant to the president for planning, budgeting and accountability.

Nozman Drucker of Arlington, who brings 18 years of experience in the field to his new position, was chosen over 65 other applicants for the job. At ULowell, he is now responsible for creating a coherent, highly visible program to improve strategic planning, resource allocation and accountability reporting.

In the 12 years prior to joining the Massachusetts Office of Inspector General in 1981, Drucker was a performance audits director for the Massachusetts Department of State

Auditor, research associate at the MIT laboratory of architecture and planning, research manager for the Organization for Social and Technical Innovation, housing program planner for the Office of the Mayor of Boston and senior researcher and planner for Urban Planning Aid Inc.

He received a bachelor's degree in architecture from MIT in 1960 and has completed all course work and examinations for a doctorate in planning from that institution.

Drucker also was a first lieutenant in the 23rd Armored Engineer Battalion in Hanau, Germany from 1961 to 1963. He lives at 86 Bartlett Ave., Arlington, with his wife and two children.

## Merrimack names honor students

Two students from Arlington have

been named to the dean's list for the spring semester at Merrimack College in North Andover.

Dean's list students have maintained an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.25, or an average of better than a "B" grade for all their courses.

They are Patricia Adams, 143 Wright St., Arlington, a senior English major; and Mary Elizabeth Roche, 41 Silk St., Arlington, a senior accounting major.

## Resident named to college faculty

Seventeen faculty members at Fitchburg State College have been granted promotions, effective in September. Included is Carol Gay of Arlington, to professor of behavioral sciences. Gay is a graduate of the University of Chicago.

# Town Meeting date shifts due to election

(Continued from page 1)

we might have a fuller house," she said.

Other task force members agreed. "The extra time will allow us to be better organized and get more accomplished," said Fred Pitcher, executive secretary to the selectmen.

Selectman Stephen Conroy said the additional month will give newly elected town officials and board members time to acclimate themselves to the articles on the warrant or make any changes to reflect their views.

"It is difficult being newly elected and facing a Town Meeting within your first few days. People ask you why your board is taking a particular action and it's not always easy to come up with an answer," said Conroy.

The change of date for Town Meeting is one of several proposals being reviewed by the task force to make the process more efficient.

Other suggestions include better organizing of the warrant system, a stricter schedule for reviewing and making recommendations on articles

and processing all warrants through one office to eliminate duplication.

Town Meeting Moderator Harry McCabe, also a member of the task force, said other measures such as voting on all articles from a particular board or committee at the same time and reviewing budgets with like warrant articles could save time.

"People get tired with all the presentations and duplications of information," said McCabe. "Once people are thinking a particular subject let them take care of all the business relating to it."

Selectmen formed the task force following a letter by Allan Tosti, a East Arlington Town Meeting member, who criticized the inefficiency of last year's Town Meeting.

Tosti, a member of the task force, said Tuesday: "I think these steps will allow people to get down to the business of Town Meeting and eliminate much of the wasted time."

The task force will be finalizing its recommendations in early October and is expected to present a final proposal to selectmen later in the month.

# Murray seeks to stay in office despite move

(Continued from page 1)

regardless of the outcome of Murray's official status because none of the votes were split, meaning Murray's individual votes did not in themselves determine an issue.

A spokesman for the Secretary of State's office in Boston on Tuesday said Murray's status as a registered voter, and perhaps as an office holder in Arlington, may be challenged by other voters in Arlington.

At any time, a registered voter may contest to the town's registers of voters the validity of another registered voter's status to vote, said Robin Hall, an assistant legal counsel to the Secretary of State's election division

Beacuse Murray has moved, she reasoned, such a challenge may find him unable to maintain his status as a registered voter in Arlington.

What is unclear is whether a loss of voter registration status would automatically invalidate Murray's status as an office holder, as was the case recently in Kingston.

A statute describes how elected officials must be a registered voter to hold office "at the time of election." That may or may not mean that they must be a registered voter to continue to hold office in a particular town, Hall said.

From his visible position as manager of Browne Drug, which he owns with his brother, Murray said he had asked townspeople how they felt about his move. Their response, he

said, was to continue to hold office.

"The people that I spoke to thought I should finish the term," he said. The two-hour trip to attend selectmen's meetings would be an "imposition," he said.

Murray did not make his intention to move public until the move was complete.

Asked his reaction if the law turns out to prevent him from holding office, Murray said: "I'll cross that bridge when I get to it."

Murray served on the Arlington School Committee for six years before being elected to a selectmen's seat 11 years ago. He has been a Town Meeting member for 19 years.

Murray has been an ardent proponent for the creation of affordable housing in Arlington, acting as chairman of

a task force and as head of an incorporated entity chartered under state law to create housing.

Murray and the affordable task force, however, have faced obstacles in their drive for middle-income housing, including lack of land, lack of money and lack of Town Meeting support.

A pharmacy worker — and later manager, pharmacist and owner — since the age of 15, Murray said of his retirement, "It was time to do something else."

He bought a women's swimsuit retail store in Hyannis, Stephanie's Swimwear, and will operate the store while living in West Harwich, he said. He has owned the West Harwich house in addition to his house on Park Avenue Extension for several years, he said.

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